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Whickham

Urban District Council



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the

Year ending 31st December,

1958

A. A. Fletcher and Son, Ltd., Swalwell, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

1959

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Public Health Department,
Council Offices,
Whickham,
Newcastle-on-Tyne.

*To the Chairman and Members of
the Whickham Urban District Council.*

Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

I herewith submit my Annual Report for the year 1958.

The population of the district is slowly increasing. It has risen from 23,116 in 1951, to 24,160 at mid-year 1958. This means an increase of 1,044 in seven years or an average of 149 per annum. The difference between mid-year 1957 and mid-year 1958 was 300 of which only 113 is accounted for by natural increase. The remaining 187 can only be accounted for by immigration.

Total Births fell from 411 in 1957 to 391 in 1958, the respective Crude Birth Rates being 17.22 and 16.18. Deaths rose from 249 to 278 in 1958, the respective rates being 10.43 and 12.08. Among the causes of death which had shown a rise between 1957 and 1958 are Cancer of the Lung and Bronchus which rose from 6 (M5 F1) in 1957 to 13 (M12 F1) in 1958 and also Bronchitis which rose from 16 (M15 F1) in 1957 to 26 (M19 F7) in 1958. The other causes of death varied little, the commonest being again Cardio-Vascular disease with 139 deaths (135 in 1957). The only deaths from infectious disease were two deaths from Respiratory Tuberculosis.

There were no epidemics of infectious disease in 1958, the only significant increase being Whooping Cough from 58 in 1957 to 141 in 1958.

For the tenth year in succession no case of Diphtheria was notified.

It was very satisfying to observe the steady rate of rehousing families from the Clearance Areas. At the year end only one family remained to be rehoused from Dunston and a start had been made to accommodate families from Whickham and Swallow. It is expected that during the coming year all families occupying premises in the original Slum Clearance programme will have been rehoused. This is a notable achievement and

will contribute in no small measure to improving the environment of the population.

During the year the remaining provisions of the Clean Air Act, 1956, came into operation and included measures relating to the prohibition of dark smoke from chimneys, for controlling dust and grit from furnaces, the abatement of smoke nuisances and the application of the Act to railway engines, vessels and Crown premises. It is apparent that attention is being directed to the problem of cleaning the air we breathe in a similar fashion as was directed to improving the standard of public water supplies in the past.

A continuous systematic programme involving the inspection of all food premises in the area meant that the Food Hygiene Regulations were being observed. In many instances the standard in food shops continued to improve and co-operation from managements and staffs was noteworthy.

It is gratifying to note that the Pupil Public Health Inspector who had been with the Department from 1954, qualified in 1958 and subsequently took up an appointment with the Health Department of Newcastle upon Tyne.

The position of Clerk to the Health Department, which had been vacant since November, 1956, was filled by the appointment of Mr. E. Howse in March, 1958.

We are once again indebted to the Durham County Council who have supplied information contained in this report. Thanks are also due to the Surveyor and his staff.

Finally I have to record the good work done by the Health Department staff, the scope of which is indicated in this present report. 1958 is the first complete year in which Mr. R. W. Thirkell was Senior Public Health Inspector.

I am, Lady and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JAMES TAYLOR,
Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area in Acres—6,213.

Population—1951 Census : 23,116.

Population—Registrar General's estimate for mid-1958 : 24,160.

Number of inhabited houses :

Council, 2,284 ; Others, 5,355 ; Total, 7,639.

Number of Premises other than houses : 686.

Rateable Value : £179,185.

Sum represented by a penny rate : £695.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND PHYSICAL FEATURES OF THE AREA

The boundaries remain as formerly, i.e., to the North the River Tyne ; to the West, the River Derwent ; to the East, the County Borough of Gateshead and the Rural District of Chester-le-Street ; to the South, the Stanley Urban District. The Area is divided into four Wards.

1—Dunston : This Ward has the largest population of the District and is both residential and industrial. The population finds its employment at Flour Mills, Soap Works, Paint Manufacture, Pre-cast Concrete Manufacture, Saw Mills, Electricity Generating Station and in Shipping.

2—Swalwell : The chief industries are Engineering, Foundry Work, Brick Making, and Metal Working. A screening plant used in connection with open-cast coal workings is situated in the Northerly part of the Ward.

3—Whickham : Is semi-rural in character, and is essentially residential. The population finds its employment outside the Ward.

4—Marley Hill : This Ward is very scattered and rural. Coal Mining is the only industry ; there are four collieries in the Ward.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

Births

The number of Births registered was 391 and the natural increase of population (i.e., excess of births over deaths) 113. There were 10 still-births.

The Crude Birth Rate was 16.18 per 1,000 population compared with 17.22 for 1957. Comparison tables are given:—

Live Births - Whickham U.D. Area.						
	1958			1957		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	203	177	380	218	182	400
Illegitimate	7	4	11	2	9	11
Total	210	181	391	220	191	411
Birth Rate	16.18 per 1,000 population			17.22 per 1,000 population		

Still Births - Whickham U.D. Area.						
	1958			1957		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	4	6	10	3	2	5
Illegitimate	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	4	6	10	3	2	5
Still Birth Rate	24.9 per 1,000 Total Births			19.2 per 1,000 Total Births		

Deaths

The total number of deaths during 1958 was 278 and the Crude Death Rate 12.08 as compared with 10.43 for 1957.

Infantile Mortality

There were 4 infantile deaths recorded (1 male and 3 female) giving an Infantile Mortality Rate of 10.2 as compared with 17.0 last year.

The causes of death of infants under one year were as follows:—

		M.	F.
Lung Abscess	... ..	1	—
Acute Pneumonia	... ..	—	1
Prematurity	... ..	—	1
Congenital Heart Disease	....	—	1
Total	...	1	3

Maternal Mortality

No maternal deaths were recorded, giving a maternal mortality rate of 0.00 as compared with 0.00 for 1957. The figure for England and Wales for the year 1958 was 0.43 and for Durham County 0.67.

1958. Births and Deaths - Whickham - compared with Country generally. Comparability factors:—Births 0.98, Deaths 1.24.

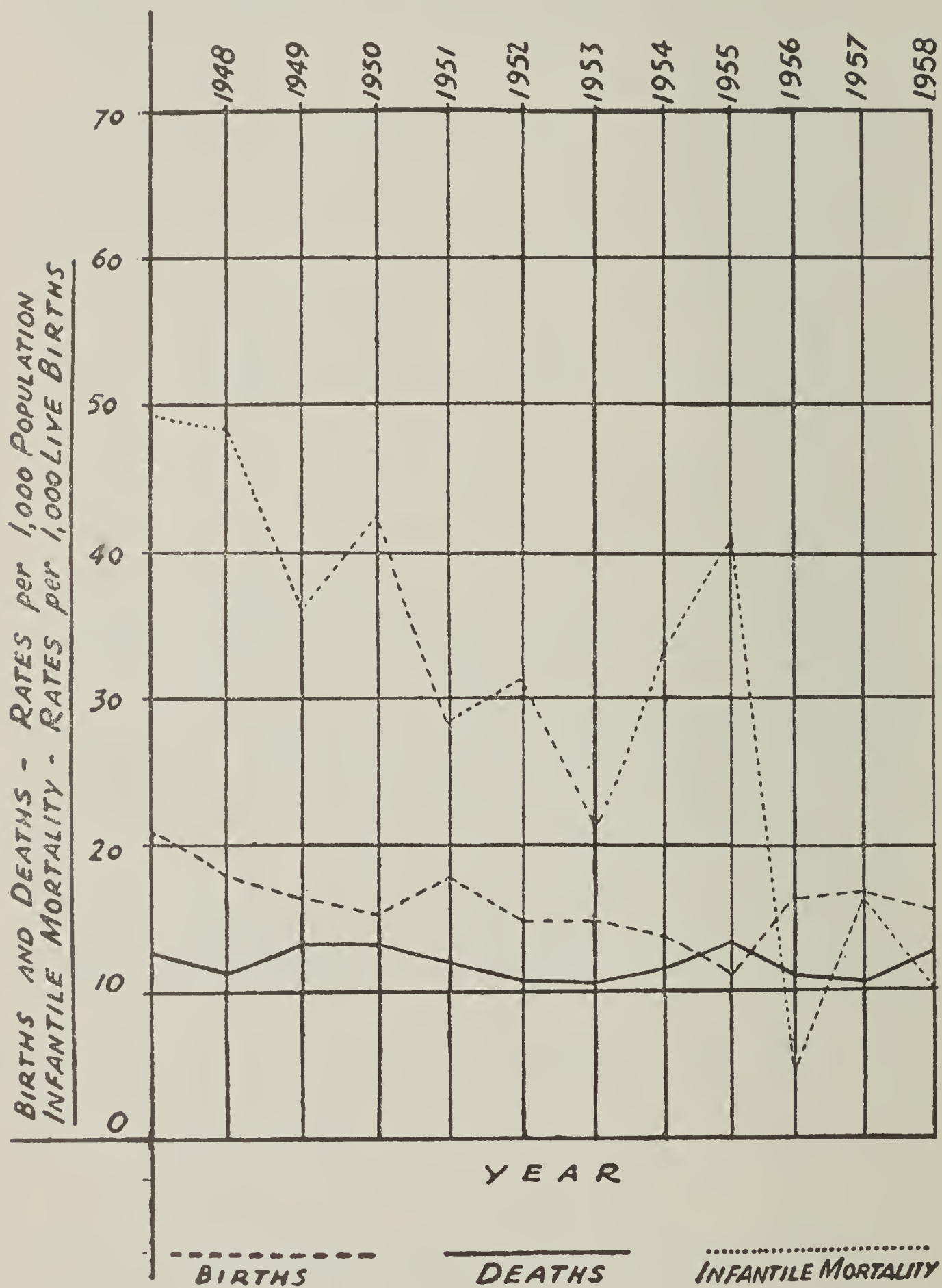
Births		Whickh'm	County Durham	England and Wales
	Live Births	15.85	18.60	16.40
	Still Births	24.40	23.20	21.60

Deaths:		Whickham	County Durham	England and Wales
	Deaths from all causes per 1,000 population ...	14.97	11.3	11.7
	Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	10.23	25.0	22.5

**THE REGISTRAR GENERAL'S SHORT LIST OF CAUSES OF
DEATH DURING 1958.**

CAUSES OF DEATH					MALES	FEMALES
1	Tuberculosis (Respiratory)				1	1
2	Tuberculosis (Other)				—	—
3	Syphilitic Disease				—	—
4	Diphtheria				—	—
5	Whooping Cough				—	—
6	Meningo Coccal Infection				—	—
7	Acute Poliomyelitis				—	—
8	Measles				—	—
9	Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases ..				1	—
10	Malignant Neoplasm Stomach				1	3
11	Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus ...				12	1
12	Malignant Neoplasm, Breast				—	5
13	Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus				—	2
14	Other Malignant & Lymphatic Neoplasms				13	8
15	Leukaemia and Aleukaemia... ..				2	2
16	Diabetes				1	1
17	Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System				26	20
18	Coronary Disease. Angina				36	16
19	Hypertension with Heart Disease				5	5
20	Other Heart Diseases				12	11
21	Other Circulatory Diseases				4	4
22	Influenza				2	—
23	Pneumonia				5	4
24	Bronchitis				19	7
25	Other Diseases of Respiratory System ...				3	2
26	Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum				1	1
27	Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea				—	1
28	Nephritis and Nephrosis				—	—
29	Hyperplasia of Prostate				1	—
30	Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion ..				—	—
31	Congenital Malformations				—	1
32	Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases ...				13	9
33	Motor Vehicle Accidents				4	—
34	All Other Accidents				6	2
35	Suicide				4	—
36	Homicide and Operations of War				—	—
					172	106

GRAPH SHOWING RISE AND FALL IN BIRTH AND
DEATH RATES AND INFANTILE MORTALITY
RATES 1948 - 1958.



SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

Laboratory Facilities.

All specimens for bacteriological examination are sent to the Public Health Laboratories, Newcastle upon Tyne. This Government service is free of cost to practitioners and the Council.

Ambulance Facilities.

Ambulance services are provided by the Durham County Council. Included in this service is the transport of cases of infectious disease to Sheriff Hill Isolation Hospital.

Nursing in the Home.

The administration of District Nursing comes within the province of the Durham County Council. The Home Help Service is also available and there is a constant demand for assistance in view of difficulty in obtaining admission of cases of chronic illnesses to hospital at the present time.

Treatment Centres and Clinics.

Facilities for the treatment of minor ailments in school children together with sun-ray, maternity and child welfare, and dental treatment, are made available by Durham County Council at various centres within or adjacent to the area.

Hospital Accommodation.

(a) **Infectious Diseases.** All cases requiring isolation are referred to Sheriff Hill Isolation Hospital.

(b) **Tuberculosis.** Provision is made for the hospital treatment of cases of pulmonary tuberculosis in various sanatoria within the Counties of Durham and Northumberland. There is also a Chest Clinic situated at Whickham for the supervision of domiciliary cases. Norman's Riding Infectious Diseases Hospital is now used as a Sanatorium for males and females. At the end of the year persons having pulmonary tuberculosis were being admitted to Sanatoria very shortly after diagnosis was established. This speedy primary treatment gives patients a much greater expectation of recovery and complete cure.

(c) **General.** The Royal Victoria Infirmary and the General Hospital, Newcastle and the Bensham and Queen Elizabeth Hospitals, Gateshead, receive the majority of medical and surgical cases from the district. A convalescent home at Wylam is available for patients after hospital treatment.

Provision for the treatment of minor surgical cases is also available at the District War Memorial Cottage Hospital.

(d) **Midwifery and Gynaecology.** Of the midwifery and gynaecological cases sent to hospital, most find their way to the Princess Mary Maternity Hospital, Newcastle, the Bensham Hospital, Gateshead, or the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Gateshead.

(e) **Venereal Disease.** Patients may be referred by their doctors to the Venereal Disease Clinic at the General Hospital, Westgate Road, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

SECTION C

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE

The number of cases of infectious disease notified during the year was 338 as compared with 1,030 in 1957. The details were as follows:—

DISEASE	No. OF CASES		REMARKS
	1957	1958	
Scarlet Fever	97	8	
Whooping Cough	58	141	
Diphtheria	—	—	
Measles	749	54	
Acute Pneumonia	16	10	
Meningo-coccal Infection	—	—	
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	
Acute Encephalitis	—	—	
Dysentery	105	120	1957 4 cases not conf'd
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	4	
Smallpox	—	—	
Para-typhoid fevers	—	—	
Enteric Fever	—	—	
Food poisoning	3	—	
Erysipelas	2	1	
Chicken Pox	—	—	
Malaria	—	—	
Totals	1030	338	

Incidence of Diphtheria, Scarlet Fever and Tuberculosis in the Whickham Area.

A graph is given on page 16 showing the incidence of these diseases over the past ten years.

Diphtheria.

For the tenth year in succession not a single case of **this** disease occurred in the district.

Scarlet Fever.

The policy of home treatment of this disease has continued where satisfactory isolation arrangements were possible. When hospital isolation has been considered necessary it has always been possible to secure the patients' admission to Sheriff Hill Hospital.

Poliomyelitis.

There were no cases notified during the year.

1,371 children (M. 674, F. 697) were given anti-polio vaccination during 1958, in the Whickham District.

Dysentery.

All cases were of mild Sonne bacterial type. 120 cases were notified; 47 of these cases were in the Dunston Ward, 2 in the Marley Hill Ward, 69 in the Whickham Ward and 2 in the Swallowwell Ward.

Food Poisoning.

There were no notified cases of food poisoning during the year.

Notifications of Infectious Diseases during 1958.

DISEASE	Total Cases notified	AGE GROUPS.								Cases admitted to hospital
		Under 1 year	1 - 2 years	3 - 4 years	5 - 9 years	10 - 14 years	15 - 24 years	25 and over	Unknown	
Scarlet Fever	8			5	3					
Whooping Cough	141	10	31	48	48	3			1	
Acute Poliomyelitis... ..										
Measles	54	3	15	17	19					
Diphtheria										
Chicken Pox										
Totals	203	13	46	70	70	3			1	

Notifications of Infectious Diseases during 1958.

DISEASE	Total Cases Notified	Un'r 5	5 - 14	15-44	45 -64	65 & over	Age un- kn'n	Cases admitted to Hos.
Acute Pneumonia	10	1	2	2	4	1		
Dysentery	120	25	76	15	2	1	1	
Smallpox								
Acute Encephalitis								
Enteric or Typhoid Fever ..								
Paratyphoid Fevers...								
Erysipelas	1			1				
Meningococcal Infection ..								
Food Poisoning								
Puerperal Infection ..	4			4				
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...								
Malaria								
Totals	135	26	78	22	6	2	1	

Notifications of Infectious Diseases during 1958.

Diseases.	MONTHS.												Totals	WARDS			
	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	October	Nov'ber	Dece'ber		Dunston	Whick'm	Swalwell	Mar. Hill
Scarlet Fever ...	2	1		1			1		1		1	1	8	7	1		
Whooping Cough ...	3		5	9	11	23	28	26	17	5	9	5	141	79	47	15	
Acute Poliomyelitis																	
Measles	1	2	4	3	1					7	15	21	54	22	18	1	13
Diphtheria																	
Chicken Pox																	
Acute Pneumonia ...	1		1	1				3	1			3	10	8	2		
Dysentery	7	39	20		2	28	18	3		1		2	120	54	61	2	3
Smallpox																	
Acute Encephalitis ...																	
Enteric or Typhoid F																	
Paratyphoid Fevers...																	
Erysipelas												1	1	1			
Meningococcal Inf'n																	
Food Poisoning																	
Puerperal Pyrexia ...		1		1			1		1				4	4			
Ophthalmia Neon'm																	
Malaria																	
Totals	14	43	30	15	14	51	48	32	20	13	25	33	338	175	129	18	16

TUBERCULOSIS

During the year 16 new cases of respiratory tuberculosis and 3 of non-respiratory tuberculosis were notified. 10 respiratory and 1 non-respiratory cases were transferred into the district. The detailed figures are tabulated in Tables A and B.

It was not necessary to take any action under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, with regard to the employment of tuberculosis persons in dairies, etc. nor under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

Table A. Tuberculosis. Cases notified during 1958.

	Total	Dunston	Whic'ham	Swalwell	Mar. Hill
Respiratory ...	16	11	1	3	1
Non-Respiratory ...	3	1	1	—	1
Total 1958	19	12	2	3	2
Total 1957	24	10	7	2	5

Table B. New Cases (including inward Transfers) and Mortality during 1958.

Age Periods	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 yr.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 — 5	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 — 15	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 — 25	4	6	2	—	—	—	—	—
25 — 35	2	4	—	2	—	—	—	—
35 — 45	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
45 — 55	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
55 — 65	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
65 and over	1	1	—	—	2	—	—	—
Totals	12	14	2	2	5	—	—	—

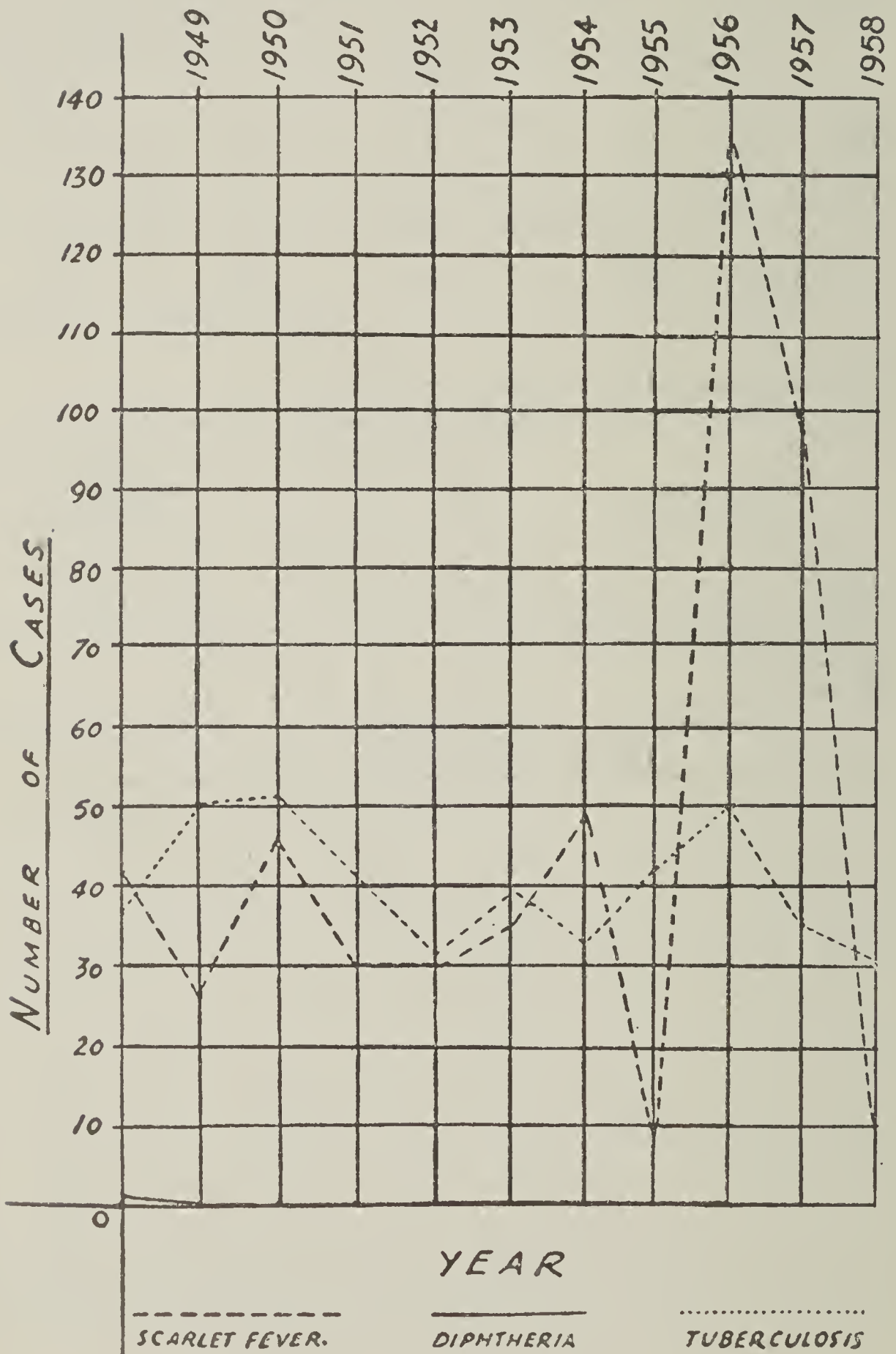
Table C

Sex	No. of cases of Tuberculosis on Register at commence- ment of year.		No. of cases of Tuberculosis on Register at end of year 1958	
	Pulmonary	Non-Pul- monary	Pulmonary	Non-Pul- monary
Male ...	99	10	99	12
Female ...	110	15	104	17
Totals	209	25	203	29

Table D—Removals from Register during 1958.

Reasons.	Totals	Pulmonary		Non-Pul- monary	
		M.	F.	M.	F.
Died	5	3	2	—	—
Diagnosis not confirmed	—	—	—	—	—
Removed from district ...	12	3	9	—	—
Recovered	15	8	7	—	—
Totals	32	14	18	—	—

INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE WHICKHAM URBAN DISTRICT AREA



SECTION D

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

1—Water Supply.

The Dunston, Swalwell and greater part of Whickham Wards are supplied by the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company, and Marley Hill Ward by the Durham County Water Board. Both supplies have proved to be of satisfactory quality and quantity. No samples were taken by the Department but both undertakings have furnished details of bacteriological examinations to which their supplies have been subjected and the results show the water to be of good, wholesome quality.

The following additional details are given:—

Extension to water mains	... ..	2641 yards
Houses supplied by direct mains	...	7624
Houses supplied by standpipe	... ..	9
Houses supplied by wells and springs	...	6
Population supplied by direct main	....	24113
Population supplied by standpipe	...	27
Population supplied by wells and springs		20

2—Closet Accommodation.

At the end of the year there were in the area, 8,149 water closets, 3 ash closets, and 79 ashpit privies including 2 not in use.

3—Public Cleansing and Salvage.

The following information relating to Public Cleansing has been supplied by the Senior Public Health Inspector:—

Tons of refuse collected	... ..	16,500
Weight (cwts.) per 1,000 population per day		37.42
Number of separate premises served	...	8,463
Material salvaged	... ..	69.75 tons

All refuse is disposed of by tipping at Sunnyside, Byermoor and Swalwell. The average haul is 2 miles.

Collections are made at least once weekly.

**Summary of work done in the Public Health Inspector's
Department during 1958.**

	No. of Inspect- ions	No. of Informal Notices Served	No. of Statutory Notices Served	Defects Remedied after Notice
Housing:—				
Public Health and Housing Acts	3654	127	3	187
Overcrowding	181	—	—	1
Sanitary Conveniences:—				
Insufficient	3	—	—	—
Defective	20	9	—	8
Drainage	94	15	—	23
Water Supply	62	19	—	19
Food Premises	333	13	—	7
Shops Act	111	3	—	3
Dairies	4	—	—	—
Slaughter Houses:—				
Public	—	—	—	—
Private	37	—	—	—
Tents, Vans, etc.	20	—	—	—
Offensive Trades	6	1	—	—
Factories and Workplaces ..	71	2	—	2
Keeping of Animals	6	1	—	1
Insanitary Ashpits & Receptacles	34	8	—	9
Offensive Accumulations ...	14	6	—	5
Smoke Nuisances/Abatement ...	36	1	—	—
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949	24	—	—	1
Dirty or Verminous Premises ...	38	14	—	11
Refuse Collection ..	92	—	—	—
Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933	2	—	—	—
Rent Act	135	—	—	—
Infectious Diseases	147	—	—	—
Total	5124	219	3	277

Moveable Dwellings.

Under the Public Health Act, 1936, two licences were issued, each for a six- month period.

Offensive Trades.

No new trades have been established. No complaints have been received in regard to the offensive trades established, i.e., one soap boiling works and one fat and tallow melting works.

Shops Act, 1950.

The Council is a Shops Act Authority, and the following information has been supplied by the Shops Inspector.

One hundred and eleven visits were made for the purposes of the Act.

The statutory closing hours are observed, the majority of shops closing at considerably earlier hours.

Factories.

Seventy-one inspections were made during the year. The following table gives the numbers of factories of various classes which are on the Council's Register.

PREMISES	NUMBER OF			
	Premises on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
1. Factories with Mechanical power ...	77	67	2	—
2. Factories without Mechanical power ...	3	—	—	—
3. Other premises under the Act, including works building and engineering construction, but not including out-workers premises	13	4	—	—
TOTAL	93	71	2	—

Defects found, 19. Defects remedied, 14.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.
Rodent Control.

Number of properties in area	...	...	8325
Number of properties inspected	...	...	556

Number of properties inspected found to be infested with:—

(a) Rats, major	...	...	...	...	Nil
minor	...	...	...	...	51
(b) Mice	...	...	...	...	47

The above infestations were all treated by the Rodent Operative. The cost was recovered from the owner or occupier as applicable. A standard charge of 3/0 was made in the case of treatments for mice in domestic premises.

Sewers.

The sewers were treated twice during the year, in April and November. An extended programme was carried out during November, when 101 manholes were baited, and a thorough check made on all Sewer Outfalls in the area.

Insect Pest Control.

An insecticidal powder is issued to householders, free of charge, to deal with minor infestations, mainly of cockroaches. Remedial measures are taken by this department in cases of difficulty.

Infestations dealt with during the year were:—

	Private Houses	Council Houses	Schools	Hospitals	Business Premises
Cockroach	15	3	1	1	—
Flea ...	5	1	—	—	2
Wasp ...	2	—	—	—	—
Woodworm	2	—	—	—	—
Ants ...	1	—	—	—	1

SECTION E

HOUSING AND HOUSING MANAGEMENT

The undermentioned information has been supplied by the Senior Public Health Inspector and Housing Officer.

Number of houses built in the Area during 1958:—

Houses built by private enterprise	...	145
Permanent houses built by Whickham U.D.C.		129
		Total
	...	274

Comparative figures—1949 to 1958.

Houses Built	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	Total
Whickham U.D.C.	50	68	72	54	112	99	84	105	9	129	782
Private Enterprise	8	9	15	17	26	142	214	122	179	145	877
Total	58	77	87	71	138	241	298	227	188	274	1659

Allocations.

During the year 129 new houses were let and in all 291 tenancies were allocated.

Comparative Figures, 1955 - 1958.

Council Houses	1955	1956	1957	1958
New Houses Let	84	111	9	129
Tenancies Allocated	169	270	160	291

Of the 291 tenancies allocated, 130 were exchanges or transfers, so that the number of families allocated Council Houses was 161 and of these 107 were allocated to families in Clearance Areas.

Demand for Council Houses.

The demand for housing accommodation continues and at the year end there were 1,585 applicants. However, this figure was in need of revision and the decision of the Housing Committee to revise the list was welcomed, when it is hoped to see a substantial reduction in this figure.

Improvement.

No improvement schemes were undertaken.

Slum Clearance.

No inquiries were held during 1958, the rehousing of the affected families taking priority.

Number of Families rehoused from Clearance Areas	107
Number of Persons rehoused from Clearance Areas	349
Number of Premises demolished in Clearance Areas	137

Demolition Orders.

Demolition Orders were made in respect of five houses. Three families were rehoused from houses on which Demolition Orders were made in 1957.

SECTION F

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk.

This district is part of a specified area in which milk of special designations only may be sold.

Dairies.

There are no dairies registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949/54.

Dairy Farms.

The supervision of milk production at the 15 dairy farms in the district is exercised by the Ministry of Agriculture.

Distributors.

During 1957 and 1958 the following annual licences for designated milk were issued:—

	1957	1958
Tuberculin Tested Milk Dealers' Licences ...	11	9
Tuberculin Tested Milk Dealers' Supplementary Licences	2	2
Pasteurised Milk Dealers' Licences ...	13	13
Pasteurised Milk Dealers' Supplementary Licences	2	2
Sterilised Milk Dealers' Licences ...	55	53
Sterilised Milk Dealers' Supplementary Licences	1	1

Disease from Milk.

No action was necessary under Regulation 20 of the Milk and Dairies Regulations of 1949.

Food Sampling.

The Durham County Council are the Food and Drugs Authority for the District and enforce the sampling provisions of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955. The Chief Inspector of the Weights and Measures Department has kindly furnished the following information.

Number of samples obtained during 1958 - 74.

Articles purchased as under:—

32	Milk.	
2	Milk (Jersey).	
4	Milk (Sterilised).	
1	Vitamin Stout.	Informal.
1	Jubilee Stout.	Informal.
1	Garden Peas (tinned).	
1	Raspberry Jam.	
1	Demerara Sugar.	
1	Cornflour.	
1	Fruit Cocktail.	Informal.
1	Ribena.	
1	Peppermint Concentrate.	
1	Rose Hip Syrup.	
1	Halibut Liver Oil Capsules.	
1	Codeine Compound Tablets.	
1	Milk Food (Full Cream).	Informal.
1	White Flour.	
2	Sago.	
1	Semolina.	
1	Rice.	
1	Shredded Beef Suet.	
1	Beef Sausage (Preserved).	
1	Pork Sausage (Preserved).	
1	Sausage Seasoning with Preservative.	Informal.
1	Pease Pudding.	
1	Black Pudding.	
1	Beef Dripping.	
1	Bacon.	
1	Steak and Dumpling with Gravy (tinned).	Informal.
1	Raspberry Jam Roly Poly (tinned).	Informal.
1	Coffee and Chicory Essence.	
1	Dried Sage.	
1	Pickled Beetroot.	
1	Tea.	
1	Mixed Cake Fruit.	
1	Buttermilk Toffee.	
1	Coffee Eclair.	
1	Luncheon Meat (tinned).	Informal.

74	TOTAL
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All above samples were certified to be of genuine quality.

Inspection of Meat and Other Foods.

Two slaughter houses, both private, were licensed in the area.

115 visits were made for Meat Inspection purposes.

100% meat inspection was maintained throughout the year.

Fatstock Guarantee Scheme - Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Certification of Pigs.

This scheme is not now in operation in this area.

Meat Condemned During 1958.

All meat condemned is stained green and sent to a local bye-product works.

		Cattle	Sheep	Pigs
Total Number Inspected	...	111	277	118

Meat Condemned, with reasons for condemnation.

Organ	Cause	Cattle	Sheep	Pigs
Livers	Liver Fluke	15	—	—
	Tuberculosis	4	—	—
	Cirrhosis	8	—	—
	Abscess	1	—	—
	Hernia	1	—	—
	Milk Spot (A. Lumbricoides)	—	—	3
Lungs	Migratory Fluke	7	—	—
	Tuberculosis	5	—	—
	Abscess	1	—	—
Head	Tuberculosis	5	—	1
Mesentery	Tuberculosis	1	—	—

Eight slaughtermen's Licences were issued under the Slaughter of Animals Act for a 12 month period.

Cysticercus Bovis.

Thorough routine examination is carried out. No case of C. Bo'vis was found during the year.

The following foodstuffs were surrendered by traders after being found unfit for human consumption. Disposal is by burial on the Council's tips.

Tins	Tins
1 Gooseberries	8 Luncheon Meat
15 Corned Beef	5 Bilberries
13 Pork	3 Pilchards
10 Fruit Salad	14 Cream
141 Peas	17 Pineapple
9 Carrots	7 Tomato Soup
9 Ham	8 Salmon
103 Tomatoes	14 Rice Puddings
33 Peaches	7 Milk
30 Oranges	2 Chicken Fillets
3 Stewed Steak	9 Plums
3 Chicken Soup	3 Skimmed Milk
33 Beans	2 Condensed Milk
5 Apricots	5 Cherries
81 Grapefruits	1 Tongue
59 Pears	3 Marmalade
2 Vegetable Soup	3 Meat Paste
6 Sausages	

Approximate weight of above foodstuffs : $6\frac{3}{4}$ cwts.

Other Foodstuffs.

25 gals. Chocolate Sauce	38 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. Bacon
75 lbs. English Beef	18 Sultana Puddings
1 set Beast's Offal	10 lbs. Butter
3 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs. Dairy Milk Chocolate	

Ice Cream.

There is only one licensed manufacturer in the area.

The factory is a model establishment and complies with the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1947/52. The product is of high bacteriological standard. All samples taken fell in grade 1 or 2.

S. 16 Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

There are 66 shops, 3 canteens, 8 cafes, 1 public house and 1 farm premises registered for the sale of ice cream.

Food Premises.

Number and Classification.

Cafes	...	...	5	Public Houses	...	23
Industrial Canteens	...	...	10	Off Licences	...	3
School Kitchens	...	...	5	Grocers' Shops	...	29
Hospital Kitchens	...	...	2	Wet Fish Shops	...	4
Butchers' Shops	...	...	22	General Dealers	...	48
Bakehouses	...	...	5	Confectionery (Sweet) Shops	...	12
Fish and Chip Shops	...	...	10	Confectionery (Cakes) Shops	...	8
Halls (with catering)	...	...	28	Greengrocers	...	15
Social Clubs	...	...	8	Chemists	...	7
Institutions	...	...	2	Egg Packing Station	...	1
						<hr/>
						Total 247

Fried Fish Shops.

These shops, 10 in number, are registered under Section 16, Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

Inspection of Food Premises.

333 inspections and re-inspections were made during the year, following the implementation in 1956 of the Food Hygiene Regulations. At the end of 1958 out of 247 Food Premises, only 8 remain that have not fully complied with all the requirements of the regulations.

No prosecutions were taken under the Food Hygiene Regulations.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

as at 31st December, 1958.

Medical Officer of Health :

JAMES TAYLOR, O.B.E., M.B., CH.B., D.P.H., D.T.M.&H.

Senior Public Health Inspector :

R. W. THIRKELL, Cert. R.S.I.&S.I. Joint Board ; Certs of R.S.I. ; Inspector of Meat and Other Foods ; Smoke Inspector ; Sanitary Science as applied to Buildings and Public Works ; Honours Diploma Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene ; M.A.P.H.I.

Assistant Public Health Inspector :

A. BELL, Cert. R.S.I.&S.I. Joint Board ; Honours Diploma Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene ; M.A.P.H.I.

Clerk :

E. HOWSE, Appointed March, 1958.

Rodent Operative and Disinfection Officer :

A. SHORT.

Deputy Rodent Operative and Disinfection Officer :

Vacant.

